

# COLLEGE HAPPENINGS

May 14, 2019

## FROM THE DEAN

### **Summertime To-Do List and Setting Aside Time for Academic Writing**

Summer is here! With spring semester grades submitted, Saturday's commencement behind us, and temperatures hitting the 70's this week, it is a great time to enjoy some outdoor activities. This time of year is also a great opportunity to reflect on the past semester and to make plans for summer.

When I was a new professor I would typically put together a long and ambitious summertime to-do list at the end of the spring semester. Often, my list included six months' worth of activities that couldn't be completed in one summer, so I would end the summer feeling unproductive. As I've gotten older, I've learned that having time to reflect and think at a more relaxed pace is just as important to my long-term success as completing the never-ending tasks on my list.

Early in my career, much of my summer to-do list focused on academic writing (papers and proposals), and this was a very important priority. In fact, one of the mistakes I see from new tenure-track faculty (and unproductive older faculty) is not making time for this most important activity for their long-term success in promotion and tenure. I'd use the large chunks of un-interrupted time available during the summer for multi-day writing frenzies. Sometimes these writing binges were necessary to meet deadlines or to make-up for neglecting writing priorities during the semester. However, over the long term, I've found that I've been much more successful (and less burned out) when I prioritize my time for academic writing every day throughout the whole year (Monday through Friday) in small increments, whether it is a busy time of year or not. I'd use this time for writing of manuscripts for journal papers or grant proposals (which includes drafting, revising, formatting, etc.) so that each day the papers or proposals are one step closer to being submitted. Always waiting for big blocks of un-interrupted time before writing is not a successful strategy in the long run. In contrast, the most productive faculty I know are those who have establishing a daily writing practice.

Finally, on an unrelated topic, early indicators of enrollments for next year are becoming available. Unfortunately, the number of new first-year students committed for Fall 2019 at NDSU looks to be down again this year, which will likely place a continued strain on the university's budget. I will keep you posted as new information becomes available about the impact that this likely overall enrollment decline has on the College of Engineering.

In the meantime, I would like to congratulate you on the completion of another academic year, and encourage our faculty to make a habit of academic writing each day. You'll be surprised at the impact that this one habit can have on productivity. Enjoy your summer, and take some time to re-energize. Fall will arrive before we know it.



## IN THE NEWS

[The most memorable part of the NDSU experience, according to new grads](#)

[Mechanical engineering student voted to Google Cloud Academic All-District 6 Division I Baseball Team](#)

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Apryl Schroeder, Arup Dey, Jack Radtke, Megan Girard, Patrick Pochant, Grant Anderson, and Julie Bietz** were all nominated for the annual Mary McCannel Gunkelman Recognition Award, which recognizes the person who creates an atmosphere of happiness and enjoyment for NDSU students. Thank you for all you do for the College!

A paper by **Xuefeng Chu** and **Ning Wang** from the **Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering** has been selected as the Editor's Choice in the most recent issue of the *Journal of Hydrologic Engineering*. The paper is related to Wang's Ph. D dissertation research. [Read it here.](#)

Please let [College Happenings](#) know about honors, awards, new grants and other announcements so we can share them with other faculty and staff.

## NEW HIRES

**Lokesh Narayanan** has been hired as a new Assistant Professor in the **Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering**.

Narayanan will be teaching automation and CAD/CAM manufacturing. His research will be focused on additive manufacturing for biomedical applications.

He comes from North Carolina State University where he received his Ph.D. and MS degrees in Industrial and Systems Engineering. His Bachelor's degree is in Production Engineering from Anna University, in India. He has won several teaching awards as well as research awards. In addition, he is an active member in SME and IISE. His industrial experience includes process improvement at Delphi TVS and TVS Motors

He is scheduled to start at NDSU in August.

## 2019 NDSU FACULTY CONFERENCE

Please reserve Friday August 23, 2019 for the annual NDSU Faculty Conference. Program details will be announced later.

If you (or your group) are interested in presenting at this year's Conference or would like to suggest topics, please contact [Canan Bilen-Green](#) by May 24.

## CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

YuJa is the new video recording and lecture capture solution replacing Tegrity at NDSU beginning Summer 2019.

You can use YuJa to record lectures or lesson content and make them available to students in your Blackboard courses. These videos can also be embedded in Web pages or shared with others via a link outside of Blackboard courses.

### Training Webinar:

Wednesday, May 15, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Connect from your computer at [join.me/yujasupport](https://join.me/yujasupport) – no pre-registration required:

## Face-to-face workshops:

All are free and open to all NDSU faculty and staff. Workshops are repeated on different dates/times:

- Get Started with YuJa Video! (Section 1): Thursday, May 16, 9:00 – 10: 30 a.m.
- Get Started with YuJa Video! (Section 2): Tuesday, May 21, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Get Started with YuJa Video! (Section 3): Thursday, May 23, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

[View the schedule, workshop descriptions, and/or register.](#) **Pre-registration is required** for the face-to-face workshops.

## Blackboard VoiceThread Training Webinar:

VoiceThread is a collaborative online tool that allows people to post media such as images, documents and video and comment on them. VoiceThread is available to NDSU users through the NDUS Blackboard system beginning Summer 2019 – watch this webinar with others in the Quentin Burdick Building to learn more about using VoiceThread – no pre-registration required:

Wednesday, May 22

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

114 QBB

## FREE SUMMER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The NDSU Technology Learning & Media Center offers free computer classes for students, staff and faculty. Summer workshops include PowerPoint, Excel and Adobe Photoshop. Students and staff can also take Microsoft Office Specialist Certification Exams on campus.

Check out the full summer schedule and register for classes on the [TLMC website](#).

## NDSU IN AMERICAN AIRLINES MAGAZINE

If you're traveling on American Airlines this month be sure to look for a two page NDSU advertisement and a feature story on the university in the in-flight magazine *American Way*. You can find both in the special North Dakota Spotlight section.

You can also check them out at [this link](#).

## COMMUNITY OF RESPECT TRAINING

The objective of the Community of Respect seminars is to improve inter-cultural competencies and provide hands-on strategies to assist participants in learning how to work more effectively with colleagues and students whose cultural backgrounds are different from their own. The curriculum is organized into four separate modules with distinct learning outcomes outlined in each.

**Module 1: Cultural and Cultural Diversity** (May 29 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon in the Memorial Union Hidatsa Room)

**Module 2: Redefining Diversity** (June 12 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. in the Memorial Union Hidatsa Room)

**Module 3: Microaggressions** (June 26 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. in the Room of Nations)

**Module 4: Confronting Bias** (July 10 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in the Room of Nations)

To register go to: [https://www.ndsu.edu/equity/education\\_and\\_training/](https://www.ndsu.edu/equity/education_and_training/)

If you have questions please contact Angela Bachman at [angela.bachman@ndsu.edu](mailto:angela.bachman@ndsu.edu) or 1-7150

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### NSF: Computer Research Initiation Initiative (CRII)

This solicitation [[NSF 19-579](#)] encourages potentially transformative proposals in any area of Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) research from PIs who are in their first academic position post-PhD. The goal is for the PI to have the necessary resources to launch their research career so that they may establish an independent research profile. The resources should be those that the PI otherwise does not have, including through organizational or other funding. The CRII program is part of CISE's strategy to increase its investments in the development and growth of the research capabilities of future generations of computer and information scientists and engineers, including computational and data scientists and engineers. This solicitation provides the opportunity for early-career researchers who do not have adequate organizational or other means of support to pursue their early-career research, including to recruit and mentor their first graduate students (or undergraduate students, in the case of faculty at undergraduate and two-year institutions), which is one critical step in a career pathway that is expected to lead to research independence and a subsequent stream of projects, discoveries, students and publications. CRII awards will be given to researchers to undertake exploratory investigations, to acquire and test preliminary data, develop collaborations within or across research disciplines, and/or develop new algorithms, approaches, and system designs/prototypes, which together or separately may lead to improved capacity to write successful proposals submitted to other programs in the future.

*Application deadline: August 14, 2019*

### NSF: Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program

The [Faculty Early Career Development \(CAREER\) Program](#) [[NSF 17-537](#)] is a National Science Foundation (NSF)-wide activity that offers the NSF's most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education and to lead advances in the mission of their department or organization. Activities pursued by early-career faculty should build a firm foundation for a lifetime of leadership in integrating education and research. This premier program emphasizes the importance NSF places on the early development of academic careers dedicated to stimulating the discovery process in which the excitement of research is enhanced by inspired teaching, enthusiastic learning, and disseminating new knowledge. Effective integration of research and education generates a synergy in which the process of discovery stimulates learning, and assures that the findings and methods of research and education are quickly and effectively communicated in a broader context and to a large audience. A CAREER award typically totals a minimum of \$400,000 over a five year duration. [View Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) >>](#)

*Application deadline varies depending on discipline: July 17 – 19, 2019*

## RECENTLY FUNDED GRANTS

- Mijia Yang (PI), Yao Yu (CPI), Dong Cao (CPI), Jeffrey Allen Erickson (CPI). Harnessing Solar Energy through Noise Barriers and Structural Snow Fencing. \$149,060 from the Minnesota Department of Transportation. 07/01/2019 – 06/30/2021.

## RECENTLY SUBMITTED PROPOSALS

- Dharmakeerthi Nawarathna (PI). Investigating the Efficacy of Micro-RNA Biomarker Testing for Developing a Low-cost, Minimally Invasive and Sensitive Screening Assay for Early Detection of Colorectal Cancer. \$365,429 from the National Institutes of Health. 06/01/2019 – 05/31/2022.

- Ravi Kiran Yellavajjala (PI). Thermal Imaging through Unmanned Aerial (UAV) for Characterization of Bridge Deck Deteriorations. \$46,554 from the Department of Transportation. 08/01/2019 – 01/31/2020.
- Ying Huang (PI). Distributed Fiber Optic Sensor Network for Real-time Monitoring of Pipeline Interactive Anomalies. \$40,000 from Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety. 09/30/2019 – 09/30/2022.
- Ying Huang (PI). Mission-oriented Situation-award Multi-UAS Enhanced Pipeline Safety Assessment. \$50,000 from Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety. 09/30/2019 – 09/30/2022.
- Nita Yodo (PI), David Grewell (CPI). Soy-Based Fiber Composites. \$142,446 from the United Soybean Board. 09/01/2019 – 08/31/2021.
- Nita Yodo (PI), David Grewell (CPI). Cost Effective Soy-Based Garden Pots. \$156,494 from the United Soybean Board. 10/01/2019 – 09/30/2021.
- Mijia Yang (PI), Xin Sun (CPI). Auto-pilot: hyperspectral UAS system for on-time pipeline safety monitoring. \$248,044 from Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety. 01/01/2020 – 05/31/2022.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

For 2019, 43 publications by authors with the College of Engineering affiliation have appeared in various journals, according to the ISI Web of Science and submissions from faculty. Here are some of the most recent publications:

- Rasti, Saeid, and Chrysafis Vogiatzis. 2019. “A Survey of Computational Methods in Protein-Protein Interaction Networks.” *Annals of Operations Research* 276 (1–2): 35–87. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10479-018-2956-2>.
- Yoshida, Ruriko, Kenji Fukumizu, and Chrysafis Vogiatzis. 2019. “Multilocus Phylogenetic Analysis with Gene Tree Clustering.” *Annals of Operations Research* 276 (1–2): 293–313. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10479-017-2456-9>.

*College Happenings* is distributed to the NDSU College of Engineering staff and faculty every other Tuesday.

Read past issues of *College Happenings* [here](#).

Deadline for submissions to *College Happenings* is 12:00 p.m. Fridays.

Contact [kyle.bosch@ndsu.edu](mailto:kyle.bosch@ndsu.edu) to submit items for *College Happenings*.

Follow the College of Engineering on social media.

